This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 KINSHASA 001033

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DEPT FOR AF/C - MADEEHA ASHRAF and AF/RSA
DEPT FOR EB/TPP/ABT/ATP - PATRICK HUDAK
DEPT FOR IO/T - WINNIE ROBERTS
DEPT FOR EB/ESC/TFS - JLEY
DEPT FOR S/CT - TKUSHNER
DEPT FOR IO/PSC - BFITZGERALD
DEPT FOR NP/PPC - J SMITH AND M LANDWEBER
DEPT FOR G/TIP
NSC PLEASE PASS TO MRUPPERT
TREASURY PLEASE PASS TO JZARATE
OFAC PLEASE PASS TO RWERNER
USTR PLEASE PASS TO BETH LEIER
USDA PLEASE PASS TO RON LORD

PARIS FOR AFRICA WATCHER

FROM BRAZZAVILLE EMBASSY OFFICE

E.O.12958: N/A
TAGS: PREL OPRC KCRM KWMN PHUM KTFN EFIN ETTC PTER CVIS KVPR KPAO EAGR ETRD TBIO PARM MNUC KNNP KUNR PGOV AORC CF UNESCO KSCI UNSC
SUBJECT: CONGO/B: DELIVERY OF DEMARCHES AND TIP REPORT

REF A: STATE 100368
REF B: STATE 102449
REF C: STATE 109147
REF D: KINSHASA 00977
REF E: STATE 109242
REF F: STATE 110046
REF G: STATE 111637
REF H: STATE 111657
REF I: STATE 114051

¶1. The following demarches were delivered on June 16, 2005, by the Ambassador and Econ/Cons Officer to Ambassador Gregoire Kaya, Interim Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

¶2. Release of the 2005 TIP Report (REF A) - Ambassador conveyed to Kaya that the 2005 TIP Report had recently been released. She noted that although Congo/B was not listed this year, TIP is an annual review and that the government may need to take some steps now, such as passing a law that would specifically prohibit trafficking in persons. The Ambassador also raised the issue of the isolated anecdotal rumors (as yet unsubstantiated) of some in the Beninois community using children, claimed as "family members," for labor. The rumors say that the children work long hours and are not attending school, even though the other children in the family do. Kaya acknowledged that he had not heard as much detail about the rumors as the Ambassador had conveyed, but that he would be interested in hearing more as the cases are investigated. He did note that some older rumors regarding somewhat similar issues in the Malian community seem either to have disappeared or were proved invalid. In closing, the Ambassador underscored that without a more cohesive and aggressive laws against trafficking in persons, that Congo/B may find itself listed in the TIP Report as early as next year, particularly as it continues to improve its post conflict status.

¶3. Terrorist Finance List 72 (REF B) - The Interim Secretary General accepted the information and

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expressed that his government supports efforts to combat global terrorism. He responded that his government has similar issues with terrorism in the Pool region. The Ambassador touched on the difference between domestic economic crime or internal quasi-rebel activity and terrorism as a distinction between the global war on terrorism (and those who support or sponsor terrorism) and political or economic instability in Congo/B. Kaya reiterated support for the global war on terrorism, but persisted in characterizing the former Ninjas in the Pool region as terrorists or as creating terror for his government.

¶4. Implementing Raw Sugar Tariff Rate Quota (REF C & D) - As reported in reftels, the Ambassador, with Econ/Cons Officer, delivered the Congo/B sugar certificates on May 27(see REF D concerning the delivery). Comment: the Embassy is concerned that the bilateral assistance provided to Congo/B under the American Sugar Program may not be benefiting the country's treasury and has, therefore, requested accounting to show the extent to which this assistance is actually benefiting the ROC.

¶5. UNESCO Bioethics Declaration (REF E) - The Interim Secretary General said that the head of Congo/B's

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delegation would be leaving the following day and that he would pass along the information on the USG position.

¶6. UNSCR 1540 (REF F) - Kaya said he was unable to confirm whether Congo/B was working on the report or what its status was. In fact, he was rather uncertain about the status of the report, but did agree to look into it and get back to the Embassy.

¶7. UN Reform: Promoting our Priorities (REF G, H, & I) - Ambassador covered all talking points from the

reftels and delivered the non-paper for the demarche (REF I) on the USG support for the creation of a UN mechanism such as the Human Rights Council that would be more aggressive than the Commission on Human Rights at examining human rights issues. Kaya appeared pretty well aware of many of the USG priorities, among them, the priority towards greater emphasis on improved trade and greater foreign investment as a key to sustainable development. In recounting a local example, he observed that aid by itself does not necessarily lead to sustainable development and that strategies like the ones suggested by the USG are likely to be more effective. He also seemed to respond well to the priorities for the Democracy Initiatives, a new Human Rights Council, the creation of a Peacebuilding Commission, and the adoption of a comprehensive Convention on Terrorism. Despite his positive attitude towards the subject of the demarches, he did not comment substantively about the position of Congo/B with respect to the reform package or the specific priorities. He noted that he would review all of our positions with the Foreign Minister when he returns to ROC as they prepare for UNGA.

¶8. The Interim Secretary General Kaya also passed along that President Sassou would definitely be going to UNGA this summer. The MFA always tends to be out front and positive on this issue. Post will need to see closer to the start of the UNGA session whether Sassou will travel this year or not.

¶9. Brazzaville Embassy Office - Sanders.
MEECE